

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 02109 052206Z

72

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EUR-25 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02

CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04

USIA-15 PRS-01 DRC-01 /184 W
----- 108833

R 051600Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2998
INFO USDOCOSOUTH
USCINCEUR
CINCUSNAVEUR
CINCUSAFE

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E.O. 1165: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, GR

SUBJ: EXXON MAY SUSPEND CRUDE OIL DELIVERIES TO ESSO-
PAPPAS REFINERY

MILITARY COMANDS FOR POLADS

1. SUMMARY: ESSO-PAPPAS, WHICH HAS BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN
GETTING GOG EITHER TO NEGOTIATE CRUDE OIL SUPPLY CONTRACT FOR
1974 OR TO APPROVE INVOICES FOR DELIVERIES OF CRUDE OIL MADE
THUS FAR THIS YEAR AT POSTED PRICE, NOTIFIED GOG APR 5 THAT
EXXON WILL DIVERT NEXT SCHEDULED TANKER (DUE ARRIVE THESSALONIKI
APR 11 WITH 460,000 BARRELS CRUDE OIL) AND WILL SUSPEND
FURTHER CRUDE DELIVERIES UNTIL CONTRACT IS NEGOTIATED.

2. FOLLOWING CONTINUING UNSUCCESSFUL EFFORTS OF ESSO-PAPPAS
OVER PAST SEVERAL WEEKS TO ARRANGE START OF CONTRACT
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PAGE 02 ATHENS 02109 052206Z

NEGOTIATIONS, EMBASSY ALSO POINTED UP TO GOG OFFICIALS

NEED TO START CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. ESSO-PAPPAS MANAGER COOK WAS FINALLY RECEIVED MORNING APR 5 BY MINISTER OF INDUSTRY KYPREOS WHO SAID HE WAS STUDYING MATTER AND PLANNED TO RAISE IT WITH CABINET ON APR 18. COOK THEN SHOWED KYPREOS TELEX FROM EXXON REGARDING DECISION TO SUSPEND CRUDE DELIVERIES BEGINNING APR 11. KYPREOS RESPONDED THAT HE WOULD STUDY THE MATTER AND COMMUNICATE LATER WITH COOK.

3. ESSO-PAPPAS INITIATED DISCUSSIONS APR 5 WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF 7206TH AIR BASE GROUP REGARDING (1) IMPACT OF POSSIBLE SUSPENSION OF CRUDE OIL DELIVERIES ON ESSO-PAPPAS' ABILITY TO FULFILL ITS CONTRACTS TO SUPPLY PRODUCTS TO U.S. MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN GREECE, AND (2) POSSIBLE ALTERNATE SOURCES OF SUPPLY FROM EXXON FACILITIES OUTSIDE GREECE, SHOULD NEED ARISE.

4. COMMENT: ESSO-PAPPAS HAD INDICATED AT BEGINNING 1974 THAT EXXON WOULD BE WILLING TO NEGOTIATE CRUDE PRICE FORMULA SUBSTANTIALLY BELOW POSTED PRICE (I.E., ROUGHLY EQUIVALENT TO PRICE OF CRUDE DELIVERED BY EXXON TO OTHER EXXON OUTLETS IN EUROPE) BUT WOULD NOT DELIVER CRUDE BEYOND FIRST QUARTER 1974 WITHOUT NEW CONTRACT REFLECTING OCT 1973 AND JAN 1974 CRUDE PRICE INCREASES. EXXON AND ESSO-PAPPAS OFFICIALS BELIEVE THEY ARE NOW FULLY JUSTIFIED IN SUSPENDING DELIVERIES IF GOG DOES NOT RESPOND CONSTRUCTIVELY BEFORE APR 11.
BRANDIN

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